

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT INFORMATION
REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 00V-154 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

JUN - 7 2000

Part 573 Report Date: **June 2, 2000**

Manufacturer: **Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. (Technical Center)**

Manufacturer Contact: **Mr. Takashi Yoshie, General Manager, Government Affairs Dept.**

FAX: **(202) 463-8513**

SUBJECT: 541 Toyota 2000 Avalon model vehicles manufactured from March 28 through April 3, 2000; Camry model vehicles manufactured during March 28 and 29, 2000; and Camry Solara model vehicles manufactured from March 30 through April 9, 2000. Due to improper heat treatment, the rear axle may not have adequate strength in some areas. After extended use of the vehicle, the rear axle shafts could fail or break.

This is an **initial** acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. *As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during late June/early July 2000.* Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2000.

If you have any questions, please call:



Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst on (202) 366-5232
or Jonathan White, Chief on (202) 366-5226
on or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Analysis Division

Mr. Takashi Yoshie
General Manager
Toyota Technical Center, USA, Inc.
1850 M Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

NSA-11paw
00V-154

Dear Mr. Yoshie:

We have reviewed Toyota Motor Corporation's (Toyota) Defect Information Report dated June 2, 2000, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 541 Toyota 2000 Avalon model vehicles manufactured from March 28 through April 3, 2000; Camry model vehicles manufactured during March 28 and 29, 2000; and Camry Solara model vehicles manufactured from March 30 through April 9, 2000. Due to improper heat treatment, the rear axle may not have adequate strength in some areas. After extended use of the vehicle, the rear axle shafts could fail or break. The assigned recall identification number for this recall is 00V-154.

Toyota is responsible for the remedy of these trailers from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.

Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. *As stated in your report, owner notification was expected to begin during late June/early July 2000.* Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2000.

Recall Communications

Communications pertaining to safety recalls and issued by Toyota to more than one distributor, dealer, purchaser, or owner are to be submitted to this office within 5 days of issuance as described under 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9). Where this information is sent over a period time, the communications are to be submitted within 5 days from the date the communications were first sent, and furnish the date, or range of dates, each communication was issued. This includes information transmitted by computer, telefax, or other electronic means; and initial or interim communications. All copies are to be in readable form and a written transcript should be provided for each non-written communication. Also, if the communication was not nationally and uniformly distributed, then identify the criteria used for the distribution.

Manufacturer Communications

Part 573.8, "Notices, Bulletins and Other Communications," requires that every motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment manufacturer shall furnish a copy of **all notices, bulletins, and other communications (including warranty and policy extension communiques and product improvement bulletins)** to manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or purchasers, regarding any defect in its vehicle or items of equipment (including any failure or malfunction beyond normal deterioration in use, any failure of performance, or any flaw or unintended deviation from design specifications), **whether or not such defect is safety related**. These notices or communications are to be submitted, regardless of the media used to transmit the information. Where communications are made orally or electronically, provide a transcript. In all other cases, provide the information in the media form used to transmit the information. On a case by case basis, we may require written transcripts of this material as well. Copies are to be submitted monthly, not more than 5 working days after the end of each month.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5232 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jonathan D. White, Chief
Recall Analysis Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Safety Assurance